المجلس الإسلامي الأوروبي
Islamic Council of Europe

26 April 1984

President Abdou Diouf
President of the Republic of Senegal
Dakar

Excellency,

Thank you very much for your letter of 13 April about the Islamic Council of Europe's exclusion from the Islamic Summit in Casablanca. I am deeply grateful for the interest you have shown in this matter.

I do not wish to impinge on your valuable time further but feel that I must point out that usually it is the OIC who is responsible for issuing invitations to organisations having observer status to attend Islamic Foreign Ministers' and Heads of State Conferences. This is the established procedure set up and always used hitherto. The Islamic Council of Europe has always been invited to such conferences in the past.

Additionally, we were informed by the Moroccan Embassy in London that they were only the host country for the Casablanca Conference and that the OIC were the responsible body for the issue of invitations. You know from my letter of 1 February that no less than 4 telexes/cables sent by us to the OIC asking for clarification of the matter met with no response whatsoever, not even an acknowledgement. To my mind this is no way to run an important, international Islamic organisation.

Thank you for your attention. With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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N°-2877 /PR/CAB/INFO.2

Le Président de la République

Dakar, le 13 AVR. 1984

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

J'ai bien reçu votre lettre du 1er février 1984 par laquelle vous attiriez mon attention sur ce que vous considérez comme un acte de discrimination vis-à-vis de votre Organisation de la part de Son Excellence M. Habib Chatty, Secrétaire général de la Conférence Islamique. En effet, vous repprochez à M. Chatty de n'avoir pas invité le Conseil islamique d'Europe au dernier Sommet de l'O.C.I. à Casablanca.

Je vous informe que, d'après les renseignements recueillis auprès du Secrétariat général de l'O.C.I., les invitations adressées aux observateurs, à l'occasion de ce Sommet, ont été envoyées par le Royaume du Maroc, pays hôte.

Veuillez croire, Monsieur le Secrétaire Général, à l'assurance de mes sentiments cordiaux.

Abdou DIOUF

Monsieur Salem AZZAM,
Secrétaire Général de
Islamic Council of Europe
16 Grovenor Crescent
LONDON SW 17 EP

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

FOREIGN MINISTER

Dhaka
February 22, 1984

Your Excellency / Dear Brother

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu.

Thank you for your kind letter of February 1, 1984. I learnt with regret that you did not receive invitation to the IVth Islamic Summit Conference held in Casablanca. I shall no doubt bear this in mind for reference in the future.

I deeply appreciate the efforts you are making in the cause of Islam and the Islamic world. The programme you have chalked out is comprehensive and this, I am sure, will contribute to the realisation of our common objectives.

With kind Regards & very best wishes

Sincerely

(Aminur Rahman Shams-ud Doha)

His Excellency
Mr. Salem Azzam,
Secretary General,
Islamic Council of Europe
London.

المجلس الإسلامي الأوروبي
Islamic Council of Europe

Minister of Foreign Affairs — Pakistan
Indonesia
~~Libya~~
Algeria
Iran
N. Yemen
S. Yemen
Kuwait
UAE
Bangladesh
Nigeria
Jordan
Malaysia

Prime Minister

President Sekou Toure
" Abdou Diouf

MFA — Sudan ×
Turkey ×

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المجلس الإسلامي الأوروبي
Islamic Council of Europe

1 February 1984

Excellency,

Assalaam Alaikum wa Rahmatullah wa Barakatuhu.

I wish to draw your attention to an act of discrimination and violation by His Excellency Mr Habib Chatty concerning the decision of the Foreign Ministers' Conference regarding the right of observer status organisations to attend conferences organised by the OIC. I am referring to the attitude of the OIC Secretary General concerning the invitation to the Islamic Council of Europe to attend the Casablanca Summit held in January 1984. The facts of the case are as stated below.

The Council was given observer status with the OIC by the Foreign Ministers' Conference in 1975 and, except for the Casablanca Summit, has been invited to attend all conferences organised by the OIC ever since.

Not having received an invitation to the Casablanca Summit, the Council sent a telex on 16 December 1983 to the Secretary General (please see transcript enclosed) requesting the invitation. The Secretary General neither replied to our telex nor did he send the invitation.

Since time was running out, the Council sent a further telex on 22 December 1983, once again addressed to Mr Chatty personally, reminding him of our earlier telex and requesting him to expedite the invitation. This telex also met the same fate as the one before.

On 23 December the Council sent another telex this time addressed to Mr Hassan Megag Samatir, OIC Assistant Secretary General, requesting the invitation. This was also ignored.

Having come to know that other observer status organisations had been invited, we sent a cable (copy enclosed) to the Secretary General at the conference in Casablanca expressing our disappointment at not having received the invitation and requesting clarification. To this day we have not received a reply.

The Islamic Council of Europe is deeply concerned at this unfriendly attitude of the Secretary General and at the lack of courtesy in not replying to our communications. This, you will agree, does not

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do credit to the image, dignity and prestige of the OIC. I would, therefore, request you to inquire into the matter and initiate necessary action to prevent a recurrence of similar incidents in the future.

A copy of a brochure indicating some of the activities of the Council is enclosed.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

16.1.84

Cable to Mr Habib Chatty
c/o Islamic Summit
Casablanca

I AM SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED AT THE OIC DECISION TO EXCLUDE THE ISLAMIC COUNCIL FROM THE CASABLANCA SUMMIT. I UNDERSTAND THAT SEVERAL OBSERVER STATUS ORGANISATIONS WERE INVITED AND ARE ATTENDING THE SUMMIT. THIS DISCRIMINATORY ACTION OF THE OIC IS HIGHLY REGRETTABLE AND DOES NOT DO CREDIT TO ITS IMAGE. I FEEL THAT THIS VICTIMISATION IS THE RESULT OF PRESSURES EXECUTED BY SOME GOVERNMENTS WHICH TURNED HOSTILE TO THE ISLAMIC COUNCIL BECAUSE THE COUNCIL HAS EXPOSED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY THEM. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CLARIFICATION. KIND REGARDS

SALEM AZZAM
SECRETARY GENERAL
ISLAMIC COUNCIL

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